THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. C.P. THAKUR) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Repair of Dhodar Ali Road in Assam

1610. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by NEC to rebuild and repair the Dhodar Ali Road in Assam;

(b) whether the rebuilding and repairing work would be completed in the current financial year; and

(c) whether the National Development Council has decided to convert the Dhodar Ali Road into a National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) NEC have sanctioned Rs. 7.7 crores to date, for the purpose.

(b) The road portion of the work is likely to be completed within the Financial year 2002-03. The bridge portion is in progress and is proposed to be completed by 2003-04.

(c) The National Development Council does not administer the subject matter. This subject is dealt by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and they have advised that presently, there is a ban on declaration of new National Highways, due to fund constraints.

Assent of Parliament before disinvestment of HPCL and BPCL

1611. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to disinvest Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd;

(b) if so, the proposed modalities of disinvestment in selling shares;

(c) whether Government would offer the shares to ONGC and IOC, if not, the reasons therefor;